

JULY 2019



Dear friends

'May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him...' Romans 15:13

Door knocking

I finally got out of the door on Good Friday and went door to door along one street nearest the school where we meet. I introduced myself and talked about the church and also handed out invitations to our Easter activities. There were a couple of significant conversations and one lasting for 45 minutes with 'John' whom I have met up with since. Please pray that the initiative continues and others come on board.

Preaching

The very practical application chapters of the book of Romans (12-16) have been our diet since the spring. Lives of living sacrifice and humble service are the aspiration for all who, by the mercy of God, have been granted to repent and believe. We are blessed to have elders and one or two others who can preach. Five of the 28 sermons since Christmas have been covered by others. Four of the 28



The church family camping together

have been all-age services and four more have been preached with the 10-year olds and upwards staying in. We thank God for the volunteers who serve in the five children's groups that run during the sermon on ordinary Sundays: First steps, (which is babies not yet crawling), Creche (2-4), Scramblers (5-7), Trekkers (7-10) and Group (which is our 10-14yr olds).

Training

Mei Lacey, of Growing Young Disciples and Oak Hill College Youth work training, came and gave us a Saturday morning of training for youth and children's workers. Her clarity of vision and high expectations of what can be expected and delivered did raise our game and encourage the volunteers. We shared the morning with All Saints Little Shelford, with whom we have a great working relationship.

“

We men need to be deliberate at making time for friendship and sharing naturally what we believe.

Baptism and membership

On Easter day we baptised June Lu, a Chinese national recently come to faith after three years of patient work and bible study with other ladies in the church. It was a joyful occasion, on a sunny day and involved a lot of water.

On 30 June we welcomed new members Kris and Catherine who, after two years commuting into Cambridge for church from a local village, found us through school gate and toddler group friendships. Two of our teens, one at university and the other on a gap year will be welcomed into membership on 1 September, God willing.

Evangelism

Please pray for the men. Our women have time and are doing well with evangelism, especially with the school contacts. We men need to be deliberate at making time for friendship and sharing naturally what we believe with neighbours and colleagues. Please pray for a visit from Simon Pilcher in the autumn, speaking about being a Christian in the workplace. And pray for healthy sermon applications that will equip believers to speak boldly of Christ at work and home.

Discipleship

Digging Deeper has restarted monthly on Saturday mornings, working through a chapter of Grudem's Systematic Theology each time. Between five and eight men come regularly. There is room for 10-15.... I am seeking to encourage the last third of the church family couples to work through the Marriage Matters Course next spring. It will need juggling of resources and real commitment to make it happen.

Leadership

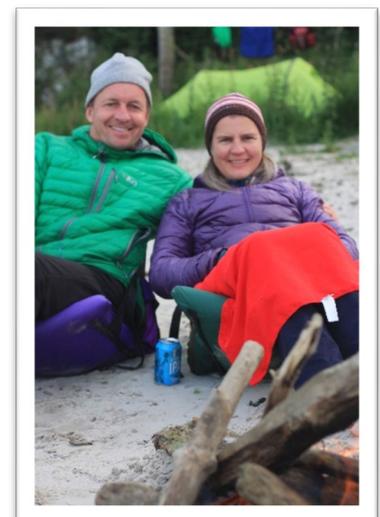
We are putting in place a time limit for elders to serve. That will require the training up and establishing of more godly men. One elder has served for 10 years and is now taking a break. Please pray we are not 'hasty' in the laying on of hands but we do seek to hold to a healthy plural eldership model.

The summer

10 families will be in Keswick for a week together this summer. Pray that it's a great tonic for us all and that we function well as a church family away from home. A number of children are off on summer camps. Please pray that the work done in them compliments what they are hearing at home and from the youth work.

Partnership

We hold a joint service with All Saints Little Shelford every two years and that is coming up in the autumn. I preach for them and Simon Scott occasionally preaches for us. Please pray for a fruitful partnership especially in the sharing of resources for each other's weekends away.



Tim and Lucy Chapman

Christ Church South Cambs

Crosslinks, 251 Lewisham Way, London SE4 1XF | 32 Montgomery Road,
Belfast BT6 9HL | +44 (0)20 8691 6111 | pletters@crosslinks.org

